

# Great Sand Dunes

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Great Sand Dunes National Park  
and Preserve



## Free Ranger - Guided Program August 23 – September 5, 2015

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### **Sunday, August 23rd**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity - “Near and Far”** - Discover how the sand made the journey to form the Great Sand Dunes. Some sand is just out of this world! Visitor Center, 25 minutes.

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Rockford and the Winds of Change”** – A geologic journey of a sand grain. Visitor Center, 30 minutes.

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### **Monday, August 24th**

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Tracks In The Wild”** - Explore a portion of the Great Sand Dunes preserve and discover which of our wild animals have left their telltale tracks behind! Half-mile hike, meet at the Montville Nature Trailhead. Bug spray, sunscreen, water, and ball cap recommended. 45 minutes.

**7:00 pm Sunset Program - “Who Dunit?”** - Help investigate the creation of the dunes as we interrogate suspects of nature and call witnesses from the past! Amphitheater 30 minutes.

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### **Tuesday, August 25th**

***99th Birthday of the National Park Service***

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity - "The Singing Sands"** - The Great Sand Dunes are a symphony of geological and animal sounds! Discover how the Great Sand Dunes were formed while making the wild sounds found in the park. Fun for all ages! In honor of the 99th anniversary of the creation of the NPS sand samples from other National Park Service Units will be available for viewing! Visitor Center, 20 minutes.

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Moved by the Wind”** – Discover the unseen wind’s role in the formation of the dunes. Visitor Center, 30 minutes.

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### **Wednesday, August 26th**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity - "The Singing Sands"** - The Great Sand Dunes are a symphony of geological and animal sounds! Discover how the Great Sand Dunes were formed while making the wild sounds found in the park. Fun for all ages! Visitor Center, 20 minutes.

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Tracks In The Wild”** - Explore a portion of the Great Sand Dunes preserve and discover which of our wild animals have left their telltale tracks behind! Half-mile hike, meet at the Montville Nature Trailhead. Bug spray, sunscreen, water, and ball cap recommended. 45 minutes.

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### **Thursday, August 27th**

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Moved by the Wind”** – Discover the unseen wind’s role in the formation of the dunes. Visitor Center, 30 minutes.

**8:30 pm Evening Program - “Whispering Wilderness”** - Listen in as we explore a unique and important aspect of the park with our ears! Amphitheater, 35 minutes.

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### **Friday, August 28th**

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity - “Moved by the Wind”** - Discover the unseen role of wind in the formation of the dunes. Visitor Center, 20 minutes.

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Rockford and the Winds of Change”** – A geologic journey of a sand grain. Visitor Center, 30 minutes.

**7:00 pm Sunset Program - “Who Dunit?”** - Help investigate the creation of the dunes as we interrogate suspects of nature and call witnesses from the past! Amphitheater 30 minutes.

**8:30 pm Evening Program - “The Park After Dark”** - Half the park is after dark! Discover the beautiful secrets of owls, nocturnal animals, stars, planets, galaxies, our moon, and meteors. Touch real pieces of the Moon and Mars! Amphitheater, 35 minutes. Brief constellation tour available after the program, weather permitting.

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### **Saturday, August 29th**

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Buried Treasures”** - Discover how the Great Sand Dunes formed over time, and what people in the past may have experienced here. See and touch real artifacts and fossils! Visitor Center, 30 minutes.

**8:30 pm Evening Program - “Pale Blue Dot”** - Experience the dark night sky and the wonders it reveals! Our cosmic exploration includes NASA images of deep sky objects and a laser-guided tour of visible planets and constellations. Dress warmly; bring binoculars if you have them. Amphitheater, 45 minute program followed by an observation session, weather permitting.

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*All programs are free and open to the public. More information: [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa) (719) 378-6395*